

## Medical and Surgical Supplies

### Do you need disposable medical or surgical supplies?

If you are on Persons With Disability (PWD) assistance, Welfare may pay for certain disposable medical and/or surgical supplies. Items such as dressings, bandages, latex gloves, diapers for children and incontinency supplies for adults are also included.

#### Step 1

- Make a doctor's appointment.

#### Step 2

- Go to your doctor's appointment.
- Tell your doctor the types of supplies that you need.
- Ask your doctor to write a prescription for these items. The prescription must explain:
  - the medical condition to be treated
  - that these supplies are needed to protect your health from unsafe or life-threatening situations
  - that you have no other resources to buy these items

#### Step 3

- Call your Worker or go to the Welfare office.
- Tell your Worker that you need medical supplies to treat a serious health issue.
- Give your Worker the doctor's prescription showing the items you need.

#### Step 4

- If your Worker says "yes", you must still wait for approval.
- It takes between two and six weeks to get approval for medical supplies.
- Payment will either be made to you by cheque or by ordering the items you need directly from a medical supply store.

#### Step 5

- If your Worker says "no", call a BCPWA Advocate at 604.893.2223.



#### Tip

*No prescription is needed to buy condoms (male or female). If you want condoms, your Worker will give you a voucher to take to a drug store. The voucher can only be used to buy condoms.*

#### Tip

*Do not purchase medical or surgical supplies yourself. Welfare will not pay you back.*

For more information,  
please contact a  
BCPWA Advocate  
at 604.893.2223